

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

OJI Intertech

Indiana MEP Purdue Technical Assistance Program

Oji Intertech Inc. Staying Ahead of the Competition

Client Profile:

Oji Intertech supports the automotive, transportation and industrial packaging industries with its compression molding, diecutting, assembly and extrusion coating product line. Oji produces everything from headliners, structure seat supports and diecut assemblies to steel and paper industry wraps and fiber drum and consumer packaging lamination. The company employs 85 people at its facility in North Manchester, Indiana.

Situation:

Oji competes on a global front, where manufacturers that are not continuously improving are quickly passed by their competitors. Therefore, it was imperative for the company to continually improve its productivity and efficiency. Its entire workforce needed to understand the principles of Lean and how to apply these tools now and into the future. To maintain that competitive edge, Oji partnered with the Purdue Technical Assistance Program (TAP) a NIST MEP network affiliate, to train its entire workforce in Lean Six Sigma manufacturing principles.

Solution:

TAP provided training for the company in the areas of Green Belt, Black Belt and Champion, with a focus on process improvement. TAP assisted Oji in implementing a Value Stream Mapping (VSM) process in the company's molding, extrusion coating and warehouse units to improve management controls and buying procedures. TAP worked with Oji to address variances in the company's polycoated chip board, the material used by its extrusion division to manufacture molding products. Deploying Six Sigma tools, Oji pinpointed what was causing the variances and implemented controls to provide stable results on a daily basis. TAP assisted the company in implementing tracking and visual display monitors, or an Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) system, throughout the plant. This real-time production data allowed operators to respond quickly to bottlenecks and equipment problems on the production line.

Results:

- * Increased productivity by 20 percent.
- * Realized \$560,000 in cost savings.

Testimonial:

The Purdue TAP staff was professional and provided the technical leadership necessary for Oji to implement Lean and Six Sigma programs and maintain an edge over the competitors.

Wendell Aldrich, Plant Manager

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